

Coventry Fire District/AFD Board of Directors

March 12, 2008

Meeting of the Coventry Fire District Board of Directors

571 Washington Street, Coventry, RI 02816

Board members in attendance

**Gary Cote, Patricia Lefebvre, Shirley Matthews, Ed Webster,
Clerk Keith Calci**

Minutes of the meeting:

7:12 PM meeting started

1. Board of Directors Update & Discussion

Gary – All regular meetings will be held at 7:30 P.M. regardless of the posting

Gary – Read tax collectors report – Collections to date \$843,297.80

Gary – Tax sale scheduled for March 20, 2008, 10 properties are still on the list but trying to work out payment plans. Capaldi's office is handling the tax sales.

Gary – Went over, \$1218.73, budget so far on one line of budget, 8 Station Repairs, this may be because the purchase of the new computer server came out of this line item. Somebody Joann knew is

charging the district about \$15,000 for a server.

Chief Labbadia – After an in depth evaluation of the administrative structure of the District I found a few problems and working to correct them at this time. A problem with the way we took care of injuries and exposures. No policies within the district, finished policies and now have to review with the union, there are over 300 policies so we will be doing a few at a time. Station supplies need to be bought in bulk to save money. Loaded a 20 yard dumpster to clean the station, the bays and station much cleaner, the firefighters have been fabulous. Need to keep better track with new time sheets, will be done every 4 days as opposed to a 28 days schedule. Need a station generator that can be used to power the whole station and we are not in compliance with many things in this building. The electric is unsafe, there are 2 services to the building and the system needs work. Trying to get the Insurance company to pay for the new generator, we need a 4500 KW diesel generator. The bronco was sent out for body work, to someone the Chief knows, at Zero cost to the district, the company is donating the work. The Morton building has been cleaned out. The firefighters are willing to do a lot of the remodeling work to the station.

We are losing money not having a full time fire marshal in place, on plan review that goes to the state fire marshal. The insurance company that we have is a New York company and because of that they don't accept some of the state laws that a RI insurance company would, need to look at changing this. Need a fire alarm system in the building, very unsafe conditions. Murry St. building will give a 5 zone

panel to the district.

Gary – The new Chief's vehicle is in, a black 2005 Durango. The chief did not need medical that was offer in his contract so he offered the cash medical reimbursement back to the district. The board agreed to use entire amount that would have been spent on his medical and put it toward the Chief's vehicle. It cost \$10,500 with a 4 year warrantee. The Chief was able to get the emergency warning equipment for 40% off the list price. Chief Seltzer gave us a radio for the vehicle.

In the 3 weeks that he has been here, beside what he talked about, has accomplished much more than that. The Chief has been working with the attorneys and working close with the men. Other departments have nothing but nice things to say about him.

Shirley – Hazardous chemicals is still ongoing with Battle Creek. I met with the Chief on the issue and he is contacting someone that he may be able to use to get this problem solved

Chief Labbadia – This comes from Civil defense and we should not be responsible for it. We may have to hire a truck to move it to a base.

Shirley – Civil Defense material belongs to them until you use them.

Shirley – Showed the house several times. Casey & Sherri look at properties in the neighborhood to restore properties, and made an offer

Gary – Received 3 bids on the property. Motion to accept the offer and enter into a sales agreement with the ladies.

Shirley – Second.

Patricia – what are the hopes for the property?

Kerri – Property needs to be gutted, to get someone to rebuild as a single family. Not going to buy it, will assign to a rehabber and they will buy it. \$61,000 Cash.

Gary – I'm confused, are you the buyers of the property?

Kerri – No. we find a buyer for the property & receive a fee from it. John will buy it

Patricia – what's the company called, do you know?

Kerri – No, but we will follow thru the whole process.

Ed – Do we have the first option to buy property?

Kerri – No. It would have to be in the contract, we have to make sure its okay with our investors.

Gary – All in favor

Ed – Aye

Shirley - Aye

Patricia – Nay, I would need more information.

Gary – 3 – 1 Vote Ayes have it.

Shirley – Make a motion that the money from the sale of the house to go into a separate account to be used for Capitol improvements on the building, with no exceptions.

Gary – Second

Gary – All in Favor

Entire board – Aye

Gary – 5 member board, only 4 members on it. We have 3 people interested in the seat on the board. With less than one year left, the board appoints the position. All 3 can address the board; we have an executive session scheduled. By the request of one of the members, after checking with the attorney generals office, that it be held in public session. We will listen to the 3, and vote in public session. “Once the board takes the vote that vote is not open for discussion.

When we come to the public comment session there will be no discussion on the vote that the board takes to fill this position. Our decision is not open for discussion.”

Keith Calci – Addressed the board

TJ Matola – Addressed the board

Chief Warren – Addressed the board, withdrew as a candidate.

Gary – With Deputy Chief Warren pulling his name, it’s time to vote.

Keith Calci – Asked the board if they are going to vote without any discussion on the candidates or who would be best for the position.

Shirley – I’m all set

Ed – I’m all set

Patricia – I could discuss it if you would like, but I don’t have any questions

Gary – Shirley your vote

Shirley – I’m going to vote for T.J

Patricia – I’m going to vote for Keith

Ed – I'll go for "Mr. Matullo"

Gary – I'm going to reclude myself from a vote, Mr. Matola is my neighbor and a friend of mine.

Gary – By a vote of 3 -1 TJ Matola has been appointed to board

2. Public Comment & Discussion

Paul Cainello – I heard that the light bar that I donated from the government might not be around, have you heard anything

Chief Labbadia – I have been looking for it

Paul – What I would like to happen, if it may have been loaned out to another district it be investigated.

Patricia – What is it?

Ed – a light bar

Shirley - Like L-I-G-H-T light?

Gary – Yes, you know like the flashing lights on top.

Paul – I would like to see a police report filed or something.

Gary – I have requested the Chief to do an internal investigation, if we can't find it we will follow up with a police report.

Paul – In the near future people will need to ring a bell to gain access to this station, there is no reason why this station should be left open.

Gary – Make a motion to dispense of item 3, 4, 5 on the agenda.

Ed – I second that motion

Gary – No, I need a motion I can't make the motion

Ed – Oh, Oh I make a motion to dispense with 3, 4, and 5

Shirley – Second it

6. Adjournment from meeting

Ed- Make a motion to adjourn

Shirley – Second

Gary – All in favor, motion adjourned.

Meeting ended 8:30 P.M.

Submitted,

Keith Calci

Clerk, Board of Directors